Interoffice Memorandum



AGENDA ITEM

January 14, 2021

TO:Mayor Jerry L. Demings
-AND-
County CommissionersFROM:Jon V. Weiss, P.E., Director
Planning, Environmental, and Development
Services DepartmentCONTACT PERSON:David D. Jones, P.E., CEP, Manager
Environmental Protection Division
407-836-1406SUBJECT:January 26, 2021 – Work Session
Environmentally Sensitive Lands Acquisition Presentation

Orange County has been acquiring Environmentally Sensitive Lands (ESL) through its Green PLACE program since the mid-1990s. Since the program's inception, over 23,000 acres of ESL have been acquired. The importance of continuing to acquire additional ESL is supported by the Mayor's Transition Team Report and the Sustainable Operations & Resilience Action Plan. Acquisition of additional ESL will ensure that Orange County remains an ecologically, economically, and socially resilient community. and is a key element of the County's smart growth vision.

The purpose of this Work Session is to provide an overview of the Green PLACE Program; existing target areas for additional land acquisition; the process for identifying and acquiring ESL; and potential funding strategies for acquiring additional ESL properties.

This item is for informational purposes only; no action is required.

DDJ/JVW: mg